



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 143

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, MARCH 3, 1997

No. 25

Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Sovereign God, help us to see our work here in Government as our divine calling and mission. Whatever we are called to do today, we want to do our very best for Your glory. Our desire is not just to do different things, but to do the same old things differently: with freedom, joy, and excellence. Give us new delight for matters of drudgery, new patience for people who are difficult, new zest for unfinished details. Be our lifeline in the pressures of deadlines, our rejuvenation in routines, and our endurance whenever we feel enervated. May we spend more time talking to You about issues than we do talking to others about issues. So may our communion with You give us deep convictions and high courage to defend them. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us so we may serve with renewed dedication today.

Father, our hearts go out to those who are suffering as a result of the floods in Ohio and Kentucky and the tornadoes in Arkansas. Especially grant comfort and courage to those who are enduring grief over the loss of family and friends. In all our needs and crises, You are a very present help in trouble. Through our Lord and Savior. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, the Senate will be in session for a period of morning business, with no rollcall votes conducted during today's session.

Under a previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of Senate

Joint Resolution 1, the constitutional amendment for a balanced budget, tomorrow at 9:30 a.m. Following closing statements on the balanced budget amendment, a vote will occur on the passage of Senate Joint Resolution 1 at 5:15 p.m. tomorrow. I want my colleagues to be further advised that the time has not been moved. A vote will occur tomorrow at 5:15 p.m.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire). Under a previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under a previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for not to exceed 5 minutes each. The Senator from Texas, [Mrs. HUTCHISON], is recognized to speak for up to 15 minutes.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Thank you, Mr. President, and I thank the distinguished Senator from Montana.

PRAYERS OF TEXANS WITH ARKANSAS

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I appreciate being able to start the Senate this morning, because we had a very important anniversary yesterday in Texas that I want to talk about. But first, I want to say to my colleagues and friends from my neighboring State of Arkansas how sad we all are at the ravage that the State of Arkansas took yesterday from the weather, the storms and the floods. Lives were lost. I want Senators BUMPERS and HUTCHINSON to know that the prayers of Texans are with them in this time of healing for their State. We know that everything that can be done for the victims of that flood will be done.

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY REMEMBRANCE

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, 161 years ago yesterday, 54 delegates of the Convention of 1836 signed the Texas declaration of independence at the village of Washington-on-the-Brazos, which is near Houston, TX. Each of the settlements of Texas were represented. Texas was, at the time, a territory of Mexico. The delegates hurriedly wrote and adopted the declaration of independence, prepared a constitution for the newly formed Republic of Texas and organized an interim government.

Mr. President, my great-great-grandfather was one of the signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence. His law partner, Thomas Jefferson Rusk, was also one of the heroes of Texas' quest for independence. Thomas Rusk also went on to serve as a Senator from Texas, and was the first Senator to hold my Senate seat.

So I have grown up knowing much about Texas history since its days as a territory of Mexico. In fact, my great-great-grandfather was the "alcalde," which was the mayor of the territory for the country of Mexico. Then, he, Thomas Rusk and Sam Houston, all hailing from Nacogdoches, TX, where my mother grew up, were leaders in the effort to wrest their independence from Mexico and for Texas to be able to set up its own government.

I am proud, Mr. President, that Texas is the only State in America that was once an independent nation and, in fact, we were a republic for 9 years before becoming a State. So we like to recall the history of our independence, just as we do our history of American independence, every year. Yesterday in Texas we celebrated our Texas Independence Day.

We commemorate the time that we became a nation, and we remember the brave and wonderful people, not only those who signed the declaration of independence that day, but those who were at the same time girding for war

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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